

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 25th March 2012

Silent Key

The death has occurred of Michael Hoban, EI5DCB. Funeral took place Wednesday March 21st.

Ar dheis De go raibh a anam dilis.

IRTS 80th Anniversary AGM & Rally

The annual dinner of the IRTS takes place on Saturday April 21st, with the Rally and AGM on the following day. Dinner tickets are just €32, a reduction on previous years and represents great value for this very special dinner. B&B is €55 for single and a double is €65. As dinner tickets and rooms are distributed on a first come first served basis, you are encouraged and advised to act now to avoid disappointment. The annual rally, on Sunday April 22nd, will also have its favourites and many new and novel exhibitors.

This is a must attend event in the 80th Anniversary year of your national society. Full details of this event are on the IRTS web site www.irts.ie

Dinner tickets can be bought now by contacting Thos EI2JD on 087-2953256 or email [thoscaffrey /at/ hotmail.com](mailto:thoscaffrey/at/hotmail.com) or by contacting any IRTS committee member. The Fairways Hotel can be contacted on 042 9321500 or www.fairways.ie

Revised DXCC Fee Structure

Listeners who are involved in the DXCC programme will be aware that there have been a number of administrative difficulties with the programme in recent months. In particular, there have been delays in processing applications for DXCC credits at certain times, for example after major contests and DXpeditions.

In an effort to overcome these difficulties in the future, ARRL has announced a new fee structure for DXCC applications, one of the aims of the new structure being to encourage frequent smaller applications for DXCC credits. To achieve this, the premium charged for second and subsequent applications in each year will be dropped.

Later this year, ARRL plans to have an online system for QSL card applications in place: while the cards will still need to be checked by a field checker, it will be possible to generate online the application form to be submitted to the field checker; this, of course, will greatly speed up the eventual processing of the application, as the DXCC staff will not have to perform the data entry.

Shannon Basin Radio Club

The Shannon Basin Radio Club is holding a meeting on Wed 28th March at 20:30 in Hannons Hotel, Roscommon.

It is planned to give practical demonstrations on computerised logging, dx cluster and Logbook of the World.

All members are requested to attend and visitors are welcome. For more info see www.shannonbasinradioclub.com

Lough Erne Rally next Sunday 1st April

The thirty first Lough Erne Amateur Radio Rally will be held next Sunday 1st April. The location is again the SHARE Centre near Lisnaskea, in County Fermanagh. Doors open at 11.30 The traditional strong attendance of radio amateurs and experimenters is expected from across Ireland. The Radio Amateur Old Timers Association is hoping to recruit many new members at the rally. There are more details in the April issue of Echo Ireland, and on the Club website www.learc.eu

North Cork Radio Group

The North Cork Radio Group will be activating Mizen Head Visitors Centre again this year for Marconi weekend. The callsign, EI0IMD, will be on the air from 20th April - 22nd April inclusive. As you may know, Marconi Day is on 21st April this year and we will be operating over the full 24 hour period on this day in order that collectors of the Marconi Award will have the opportunity to add us to their list. Mizen Head is a beautiful location and well worth a visit.

Special Event Stations for the Olympic Games

Some special event call-signs will be activated to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic

and Paralympic Games: 2012L (Two Oscar One Two Lima) from London, England and 2012W (Two Oscar One Two Wales) from Barry, Wales. The Radio Society of Great Britain has been granted the 'Inspire mark' for these stations by the London 2012 Inspire programme. The London station, 2012L will be active through the duration of the Games, located at the historic Eltham Palace, south-east London on 160m-2m, all modes. More information is available on the website www.2012L.com or contact the Press Officer, Mr. John Warburton G4IRN at press /at/ 2o12l.com.

Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news maybe telephoned to the radio news editor, Aidan, EI7JC on 085 7100511.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

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